

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the careful examination of the application, and for the courtesy of the interview granted Applicant's attorney.

During the course of the interview, the arguments previously made of record were discussed. In addition, the Examiner indicated that claim 4 would be allowable if amended to include certain features from paragraph [0057] of the published application. Although all of the detail suggested by the Examiner is not included in the amendment to claim 4, the significant concept has been included, i.e., multiple pieces of set up information correspond to different regions while the control program of the printer driver is common to different regions.

Claims 1, 3, 11, 19, 21 – 22, and 31 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 10-254708, hereinafter *Canon* in view of USP 5794,052, hereinafter *Harding*. Claims 2, 12, and 20 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Canon* in view of *Harding* and further in view of USP 6,081,850, hereinafter *Gamey*. Claims 4, 5, 10, 13 – 14, 23 – 24, 29 – 30, and 32 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Harding* in view of *Canon*. Claims 6 – 8, 15 – 17, and 25 – 27 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Harding* in view of *Canon* and further in view of USP 6,148,346, hereinafter *Hanson*. Claims 9, 18, and 28 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Harding* in view of *Canon* and further in view of *Gamey*.

As now amended, claim 4 defines a method for installing a printer driver stored on a recording medium on a computer terminal. The method comprises automatically referring to regional information identifying a particular region, the

regional information being set in said computer terminal in advance; a selection step of automatically selecting a piece of setup information from multiple pieces of setup information stored on said recording medium on the basis of the referred to regional information, the multiple pieces of setup information corresponding to multiple different regions, respectively; and a step of installing a control program contained in the printer driver and the selected piece of setup information on the computer terminal, wherein the control program is common to the different regions.

As recognized by the Examiner, the applied prior art does not teach or suggest the claimed combination that includes, among other things, selecting a piece of setup information from multiple pieces of setup information on the basis of regional information, wherein the multiple pieces of setup information correspond to multiple different regions, and the printer driver has a control program that is common to the different regions.

Independent claims 13, 23, and 32 have been similarly amended. Those claims, and the claims that depend from them, are thus allowable for at least the same reasons set forth above.

To further define the protection to which Applicant is entitled, new claims 33 – 46 have been added.

Independent claim 33 defines a method for installing a device driver on a computer terminal. The method comprises providing a region ***independent*** control program block and a plurality of region ***dependent*** message blocks; and installing the device driver customized to one of the regions where the computer terminal belongs, by installing the region independent control programs and one of the

plurality of region dependent message blocks in accordance with the region where the computer terminal belongs.

Claim 40 defines a computer readable recording medium storing an installation program, a region **independent** control program block, and a plurality of region **dependent** message blocks, the installation program causing a computer terminal to execute a method for installing a device driver on a computer terminal. The method further comprises selecting one of the plurality of region dependent message blocks on the basis of a region where the computer terminal belongs; and installing the device driver customized to the region where the computer terminal belongs, by installing the control program and the selected one of the plurality of message blocks.

The new independent claims, and the claims that depend therefrom, define combinations that are not taught or suggested by the applied prior art.

Accordingly, the application should now be in condition for allowance.


In the event that there are any questions concerning this amendment, or the application in general, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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